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Message Text

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63
ORIGIN EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 EB-03 NSC-05

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DRAFTED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE:LM
APPROVED BY EUR - J. A. ARMITAGE
BEWT/COMMERCE - MR. ZABIJAKA
EB - MR. LORIMER
TREASURY - MR. RENDALL
C - MR. SHINN
S/S-O: P. JOHNSON
---------- 048135
O 150312Z FEB 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035368

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: ETRD UR US
SUBJECT: US-USSR JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION
REF: MOSCOW 1870

BONN PLEASE PASS TO HARTMAN AND SONNENFELDT
1. ARMITAGE (EUR) CALLED HAROLD SCOTT (US-USSR TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL) FEBRUARY 14 REGARDING CONNOR'S REPRESENTATIONS TO SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ALKHIMOV AS REPORTED REFTEL. ARMITAGE STRONGLY REMONSTRATED WITH SCOTT CONCERNING CONNOR RAISING AND PRESSING WITH SOVIETS SUBJECT OF NEW BILATERAL GOVERNMENT TRADE AGREEMENT. POINTED OUT THAT US GOVERNMENT WAS NOT RAISING QUESTION OF STATUS OF U.S. COMPANY OFFICES IN MOSCOW OR COMMERCIAL OFFICE NOR QUESTION SOVIET TRADE
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REPRESENTATIVES AND KAMA COMMISSION IN THE UNITED STATES.

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THIS WAS MATTER FOR GOVERNMENTAL DETERMINATION AND NOT PROPER SUBJECT FOR U.S. MEMBERS OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL TO RAISE WITHOUT SPECIFIC USG AUTHORIZATION WHICH HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN.

2. SCOTT APOLOGIZED THAT QUESTION OF GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT HAD BEEN RAISED WITH SOVIETS AND STRESSED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD USG POSITION AND IN CONVERSATION WITH SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER PATOLICHEV HAD MADE CLEAR THAT THE COUNCIL DID NOT INTEND TO RAISE QUESTION OF THE STATUS OF U.S. AND SOVIET TRADE OFFICES IN RESPECTIVE

COUNTRIES. HE ALSO EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING THAT USG OFFICIALS WOULD MAKE THIS POSITION CLEAR DURING VISIT OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL TO WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK.

3. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT BELIEVE IT NECESSARY FOR EMBASSY TO RAISE MATTER FURTHER WITH CONNOR. WE WILL SPEAK TO HIM HERE NEXT WEEK. INGERSOLL

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